

APPENDIX

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THE COMPREHENSIVE STANDARD FOR BUSINESS, SCHOOL, LIBRARY, AND HOME

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hardware

instruction program

I

Instruction program. A program whose function is to install another program, either on a storage medium or in memory. An instruction program might be used to guide a user through the often complex process of setting up an application for a particular combination of machine, printer, and monitor. Installation programs are also used when an application is copy-processed and cannot be copied by normal operating-system commands. Such installation programs typically link the number of copies that can be installed to move a copy that has been installed on one machine to another machine, the user must download a copy and install it on the other machine (often with the same installation program).

Instance. A program provided by Apple with each new release of the Macintosh operating system. The handler allows the user to install system upgrades and to make bootable (optional) disks. For example, if you define a class called *fat* and then create (allocate memory for) a *fat* object called *myfat*, you've created an instance of the class *fat*. See also class, instance variable, instance, object.

Instance variable. An object-oriented programming variable associated with an object, which is an instance of a class. If a class defines a certain variable, then each instance of that class has its own copy of that variable. See also class, instance, object, object-oriented programming.

Instantiate. In object-oriented programming, to create an instance of a class. See also class, instance, object.

Instruction. An action statement in any computer language (machine, assembly, high-level, algorithmic) that is executed by the computer. Although most often used with reference to assembly language programs, most programs can be broken down into two types of statements: instructions and declarations. See also declaration, statement.

Instruction code. See operation code.

Instruction counter. See instruction register.

Instruction cycle. The process in which a microprocessor performs an instruction from memory, decodes it, and carries it out. An instruction cycle

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clean room

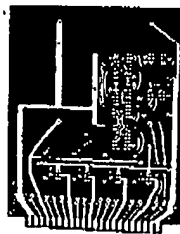
C

circuit analyzer

transmission to perform a predictive task. At one level, a computer consists of a single circuit in a package, it consists of hundreds of interconnected circuits.

Circuit analyzer. Any device for measuring one or more characteristics of an electrical circuit. Voltage, current, and resistance are the characteristics most commonly measured. Oscilloscopes and multimeters are circuit analyzers.

Circuit board. A flat piece of insulating material such as epoxy or phenolic resin, on which electrical components are mounted and interconnected to form a circuit. See the illustration. Most modern circuit boards use patterns of copper foil to interconnect the components. The foil layers may be on one or both sides of the board and, in some advanced designs, in several layers within the board. A printed circuit board is one in which the pattern of copper foil is laid down by a printing process such as photolithography. See also printed circuit board.



Covered board.

Circuit breaker. A switch that opens and cuts off the flow of current when the current exceeds a certain level. Circuit breakers are placed at critical points in circuits to protect against damage that could result from excessive current flow, which is typically caused by component failure. Circuit breakers are often used in place of fuses because they need only to be reset rather than replaced. Overcurrent protection.

Circuit board. See circuit board.

Circuit switching. A method of opening commu-

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